Roll Back in the prices of essential commodities

2671. SHRI SURESH KALMADI :

MISS FRIDA TOPNA :

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering proposals to roll back the recent hefty increases in the prices of LPG, Kerosene and other essential commodities, which put enormous burden on the poor and the fixed income groups, particularly the middle class;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the views expressed by various State Governments on the subject?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) There is no proposal under consideration of the Government for rolling back prices of items which fall under administered price mechanism.

(c) Some State Governments have expressed their apprehension regarding the consequences of the increase in prices of administered items.

Misappropriation of Funds in Punjab and Sindh Bank

2672. SHRI AMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had received any complaint of misappropriation of funds in respect of M/s. Carda (India) Ltd. who had withdrawn Rs. 7 crore from Kailash Colony, New Delhi Branch during the period of Shri K.S. Chadha, the then Chief Manager, with the connivance of Shri S.S. Kohli, CMD of Punjab and Sindh Bank; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The complaint was investigated through the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) who have reported that various acts of omissions and commissions on the part of Branch Manager Kailash Colony, New Delhi Branch of Punjab & Sind Bank had been revealed in the account of M/s. Carda (India) Ltd. These include irregularities in sanction/enhancement of limits beyond discretionary